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STATE OF NEW YORK.

MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES,

1876.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

HON. WM. DORSHEIMER, Lieutenant-Governor,	-	-	-	ALBANY.
HON. JOHN BIGELOW, Secretary of State,	-	-	-	ALBANY.
HON. LUCIUS ROBINSON, Comptroller,	-	-	-	ALBANY.
HON. CHAS. S. FAIRCHILD, Attorney-General,	-	-	-	ALBANY.

MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND SENATE.

First Judicial District—THEODORE ROOSEVELT, 94 Maiden Lane, New York.

New York County -- HENRY L. HOGUET, 48 West 28th Street, New York (under Chap. 571, Laws of 1873.)

(One vacancy.)

Second Judicial District—HARVEY G. EASTMAN, Poughkeepsie.

Kings County — A. A. LOW, 3 Pierrepont Place, Brooklyn, (under Chap. 571, Laws of 1873).

Third Judicial District—JOHN V. L. PRUYN, 13 Elk Street, Albany.

Fourth Judicial District—EDWARD W. FOSTER, Potsdam, St. Lawrence County.

Fifth Judicial District—JOHN C. DEVEREUX, Utica,

Sixth Judicial District — SAMUEL F. MILLER, Franklin, Delaware County.

Seventh Judicial District—MARTIN B. ANDERSON, Rochester.

Eighth Judicial District — WM. P. LETCHWORTH, Buffalo.

OFFICERS.

JOHN V. L. PRUYN,	-	-	-	-	-	PRESIDENT.
WM. P. LETCHWORTH,	-	-	-	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
CHAS. S. HOYT, Albany,	-	-	-	-	-	SECRETARY.
JAMES O. FANNING, Albany,	-	-	-	-	-	ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD, 11 HIGH STREET, ALBANY.

TABLES

APPENDED TO THE REPORT.

TABLE 11.

Showing the number of persons supported and relieved, and the changes in the city alms-houses, during the year ending November 30, 1875.

NAME.	Number in the alms-house Dec. 1, 1874.	Received during the year.	Born in the house.	Whole number supported.	Number temporarily relieved.	Total supported and relieved.
Kings Co. (Brooklyn city) alms-house	1,974	5,592	106	7,674	35,850	43,524
Kingston city alms-house.	61	128	....	187	8,575	8,763
Newburgh city & town alms-house.	80	288	5	371	2,710	3,081
New York city alms-house.....	6,679	20,553	614	27,846	27,153	54,999
Oswego city alms-house ..	80	46	1	107	548	655
Poughkeepsie city alms-house. ..	73	2,755	3	2,831	953	3,784
Utica city alms-house.....	8	235	1	244	....	244
Total	8,935	29,693	722	39,200	70,799	110,049

TABLE 11 — (Concluded).

TABLE 12.

Showing the number of insane, idiots, epileptics, blind, deaf mutes and children in the city alms-houses November 30, 1875.

NAME.	Insane.	Idiota.	Epileptics.	Blind.	Deaf mutes.	Children under 16 years of age.
Kings Co. (Brooklyn city) alms-house	792	..	..	..	....	93
Kingston city alms-house. ....	..	..	..	4	....	6
Newburgh city and town alms-house	17	2	3	1	1	2
New York city alms-house.....	1,847	181	....	101	6	1,321
Oswego city alms-house.	2	2	2	1	..	3
Poughkeepsie city alms-house.....	9	1	2	2	....	4
Utica city alms-house.....
Total	2,657	186	7	109	9	1,424

TABLE 18--(Continued).

TABLE

TABLE

2

2

2

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1

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

[illegible]

PAUPER CHILDREN
IN
NEW YORK COUNTY

BY
WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,
COMMISSIONER EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

are entitled to the thanks of a grateful people; and when the work has been fully accomplished, as it is believed it soon will be, the beneficent results growing out of this important change in the alms-house department of the great metropolis, will not only be felt in some degree throughout the entire State of New York, but also in adjoining States.

That jealous and almost affectionate care with which the State now enfolds its dependent children, and preserves them from the stigma of pauperism, enables its citizens virtually to say, with a just pride, that in no county within her borders does there exist a system, under legal sanction, that brands the orphan or homeless child, a "pauper."

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,

Commissioner Eighth Judicial District.

ALBANY, *December 27, 1875.*

REPORT

ON THE PRESENT

DISPENSARY SYSTEM

OF

NEW YORK.

BY

THEODORE ROOSEVELT,

COMMISSIONER FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF

IN

NEW YORK COUNTY.

BY

THE STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION.

RELATING TO THE BEARING OF

THE SANITARY CONDITION OF TOWNS,

AND THE

**CROWDING OF POPULATION INTO FILTHY,
ILL-VENTILATED AND BADLY-DRAINED TENEMENT HOUSES,**

UPON THE

INCREASE OF PAUPERISM.

BY

HENRY L. HOGUET,
COMMISSIONER NEW YORK COUNTY.

A. A. LOW,
COMMISSIONER KINGS COUNTY.

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HOSPITALS
FOR THE
SICK AND INSANE,

BY
M. B. ANDERSON,
COMMISSIONER SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

J. C. DEVEREUX,
COMMISSIONER FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS

AND OTHER

INSTITUTIONS

FOR THE

CARE OF CHILDREN.

BY

WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,

COMMISSIONER EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

living, four. The number who were of native parentage was thirty-one, and of foreign parentage, fourteen. Twelve were partially supported by parents or friends, sixteen by counties, towns or cities, and seventeen wholly by the institution.

The total expenditures during the year ending September 30 were \$6,500. Of this sum \$3,300 was paid upon indebtedness upon real estate. The total indebtedness of the institution is \$60,000, of which \$30,000 is upon real estate. The value of its real estate, including buildings, fixtures, furniture and all appurtenances, is estimated at \$100,000.

UTICA ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Utica.

About two miles from the depot, at the intersection of Pleasant and Genesee streets, amidst pleasant surroundings and commanding wide views of the beautiful country around, is situated the Utica Orphan Asylum. The grounds upon which the edifice stands contain five acres, are laid out in walks and garden patches, and adorned with shade and ornamental trees. The building, which consists of a main with a tower and two wings, is a commodious brick structure. It is entered by a broad hallway, which soon opens at right angles into the longer hall, extending longitudinally through the whole length of the building, and opening upon the grounds at either end. It was evidently planned with great care, and with a view to combine all modern improvements. Its capacity is for one hundred and twenty-five inmates. The following epitome of its history has been obtained from those well informed of its work:

“The origin of the Asylum dates back as far as 1830, when there existed in the village of Utica a sewing society, conducted by a few benevolent ladies in the interests of the needy. Three little children, having been about this time left utterly destitute by the death of both parents, were thrown upon the pity of the public. One of these ladies, Mrs. Sophia Derbyshire Bagg, imbued with a true motherly feeling, was unwilling to leave these helpless orphans ‘to the cold charity provided by public taxation,’ and undertook to maintain them in a way that enlisted her heart as well as her hands. She proposed to her associates that they should devote the proceeds of their needles to the support of these three little charges left without any earthly friend. Her proposal was at once acquiesced in, and the children provided for. The distressing fact that no provision existed for destitute children

The Asylum is supplied with water by an Artesian well, a hydraulic ram being used to force it through the building. The house is heated by stoves and lighted by kerosene. The ventilation is from the windows, the sashes of which are adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys. The children bathe once a week. The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads.

The children assembled for dinner during our visit. The dining room was furnished with long tables. The boys and girls ate separately. The tables were well supplied with good food. Before partaking, the children repeated in unison the following form of grace, taught them by the Rev. Asher Wright:

"O God we thank Thee for Thy care that keeps us alive and well. Bless us while we are eating this food and feed us with the true bread that comes from Thee that our souls may live forever, Amen."

The meal consisted of meat, potatoes and bread pudding. The girls wore blue check aprons and the boys were variously dressed. The Superintendent says: "The children always have coffee in the morning and bread and milk for supper." The holidays of Christmas, New Years, Independence and Thanksgiving are duly observed.

Children are received at all ages, but it is not considered desirable to admit infants. The youngest inmate on the day of visitation was two and a half years old; the oldest over sixteen. Mr. Hall says: "The boys are more inclined to go back among their people than the girls. There are a good many cases that turn out well, but more that disappoint us.

"We aim to get the girls among the whites. We have two now at the State Normal School, who are being educated for teachers. Their characters are good, and they are quite intelligent. Indian children should be looked after, till they are twenty or twenty-one. Just before then is the most critical time with them as they are so apt to lapse into drunkenness and immorality. The trouble with the boys is that when they are old enough, they go off with the Indians."

Some of the boys, Mr. Hall was very proud of; spoke of them as perfectly reliable and trustworthy, and seemed to think that as a general thing when the boys were put with farmers among the white people, and kept away from evil associates among their own, they turned out well. "Our boys make good farm hands. People like to employ them. They get up early in the morning and work diligently all day. Many Indian boys are ruined by the neighbors giving them cider to drink."

Mr. Hall said: "I do not approve of whipping, as a measure of discipline; I prefer locking the boys up in a room where they may have books and pictures to entertain themselves, or to keep them in from play." The importance of inculcating habits of industry is fully recognized, and forms a principal feature in the asylum training. Mr.

into barbarism. The hands of those engaged in the work should be strengthened, not only with our sympathy, but by our pecuniary aid. The State is now expending millions in the erection of a princely capitol which, when completed, will not equal in value one human life rescued from infamy, and reared to the full stature of virtue and godliness. The individuals engaged in this moral work are, with patient labor, shaping the uncouth outlines of crude characters into forms of grace and beauty, as certainly as are the workmen chiseling the various granite blocks for their places in that stately edifice; and these characters, when completed, will each have its place in the great structure of society, forming an edifice more beautiful, and of greater value, than it is possible to rear by human hands.

To the Commissioners of the Board who have kindly aided me in their respective districts; to the Secretary of the Board and his Assistant, from the first of whom, in addition to valuable service, I have been furnished with considerable historical matter previously collected by him at much pains; to Asylum Officials, and others kindly disposed for whose courtesy I am indebted; and to Mr. Frederick Carman, stenographer, whose faithful labors have been, in part, gratuitous, I beg to tender my cordial thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,

Commissioner Eighth Judicial District.

Dated ALBANY, *January 11th*, 1876.

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